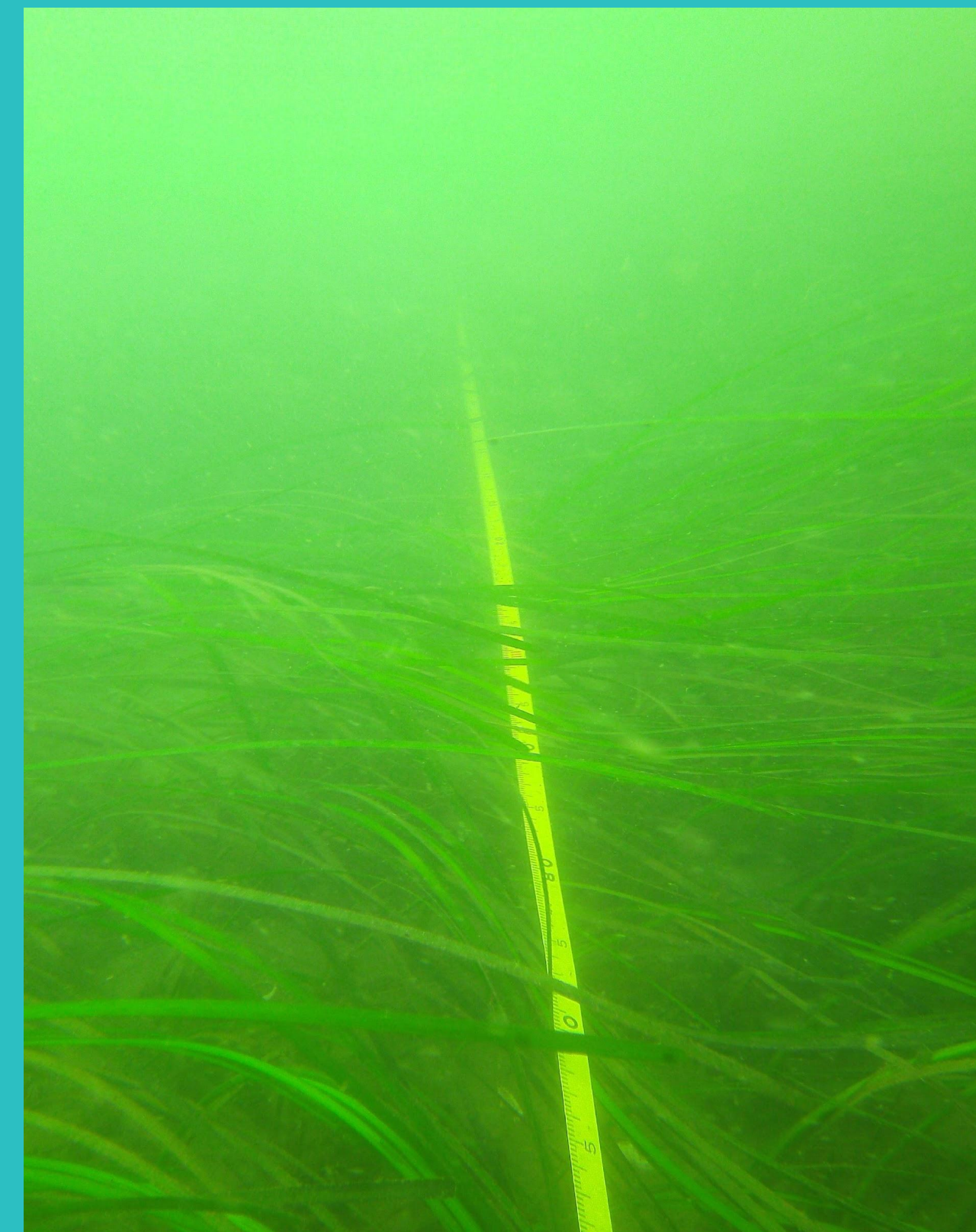
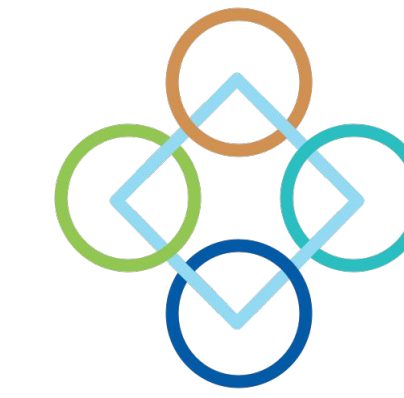
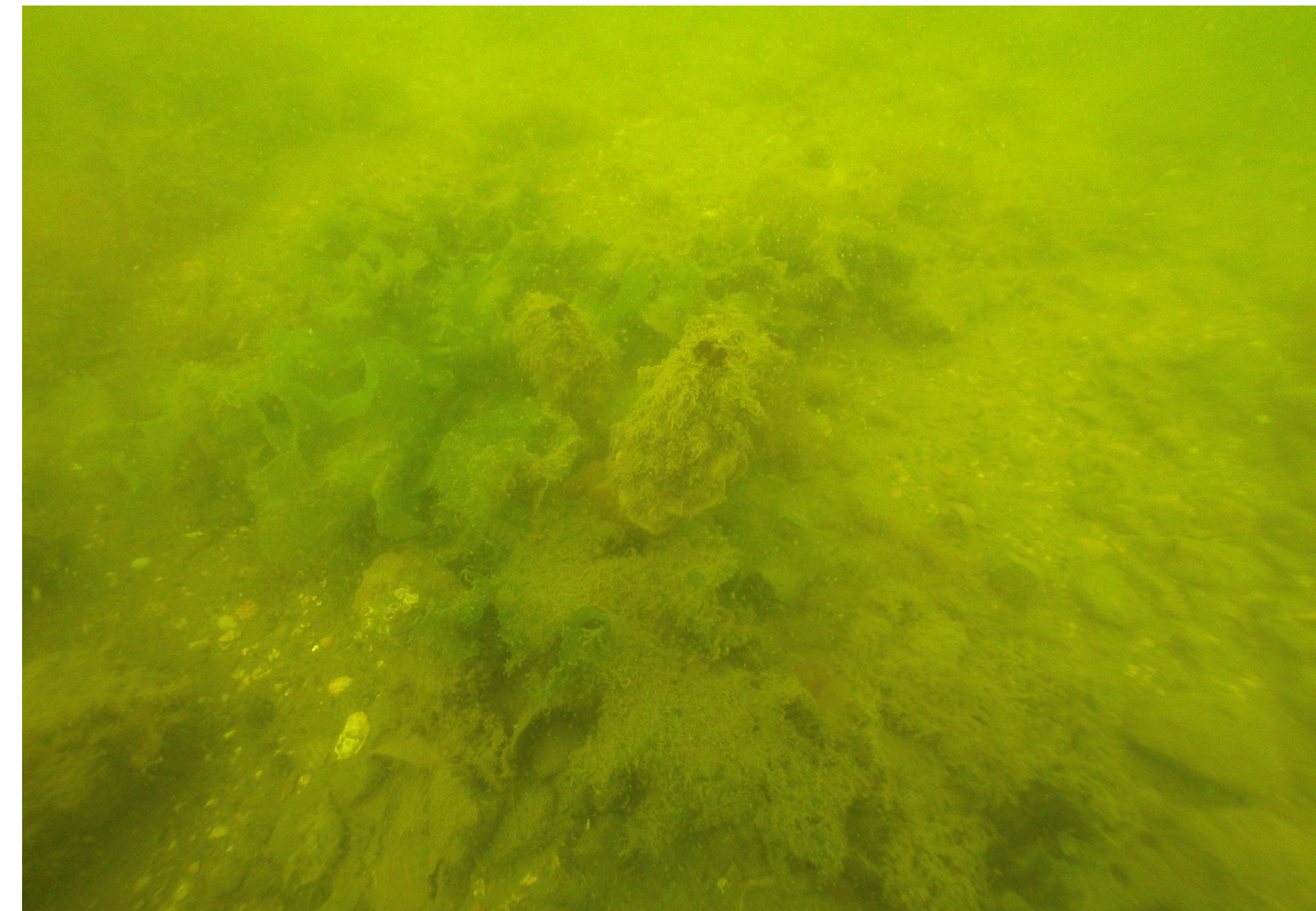


# Since 2005, we have directly restored 15 acres of seagrass in Boston Harbor

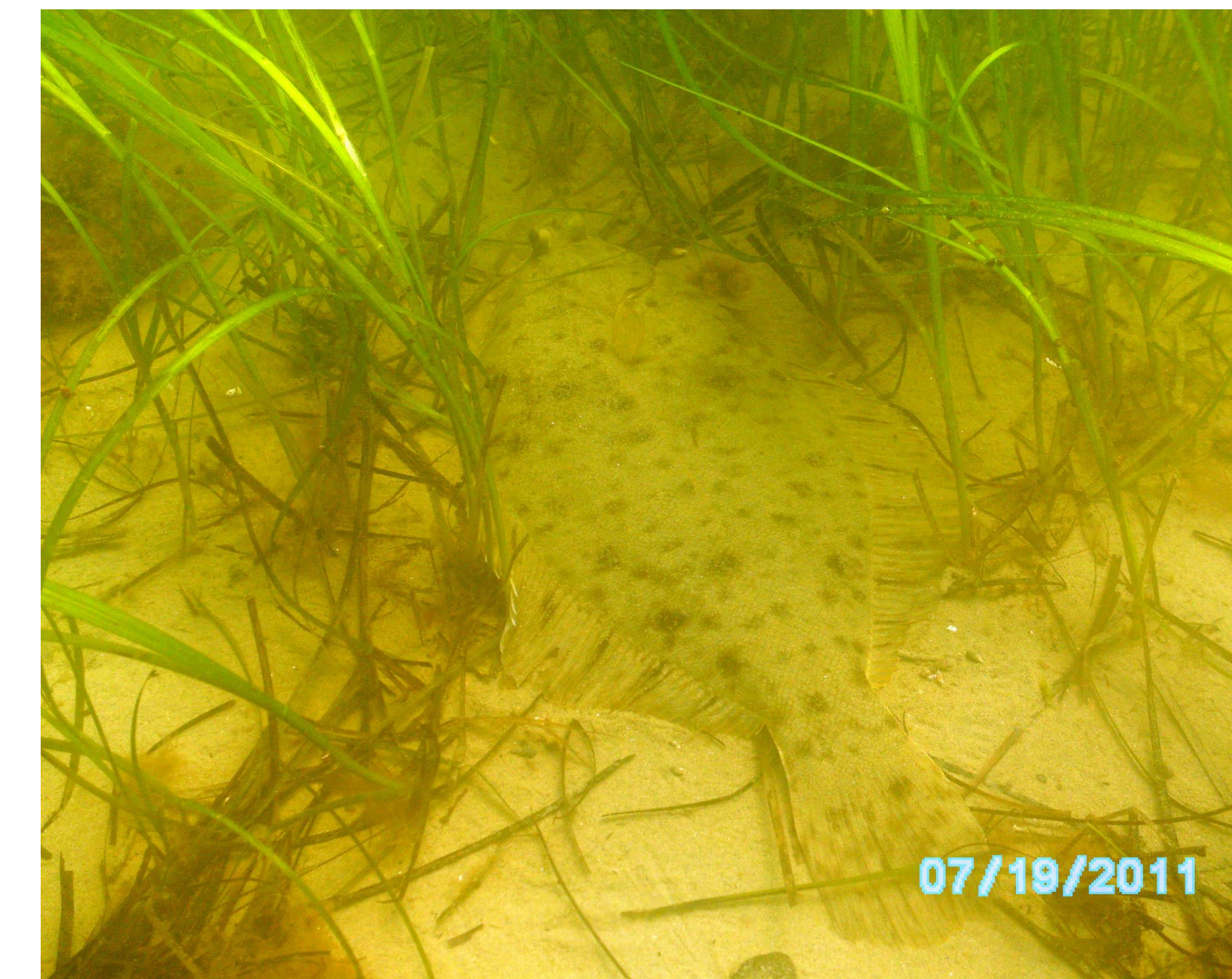


Seagrass meadows are important habitat for fish and invertebrates. And, they protect coastlines from storms and erosion.

Eelgrass needs clean water. Below is an area where seagrass used to grow. Extra nutrients lead to invasive species and mucky sediments instead.

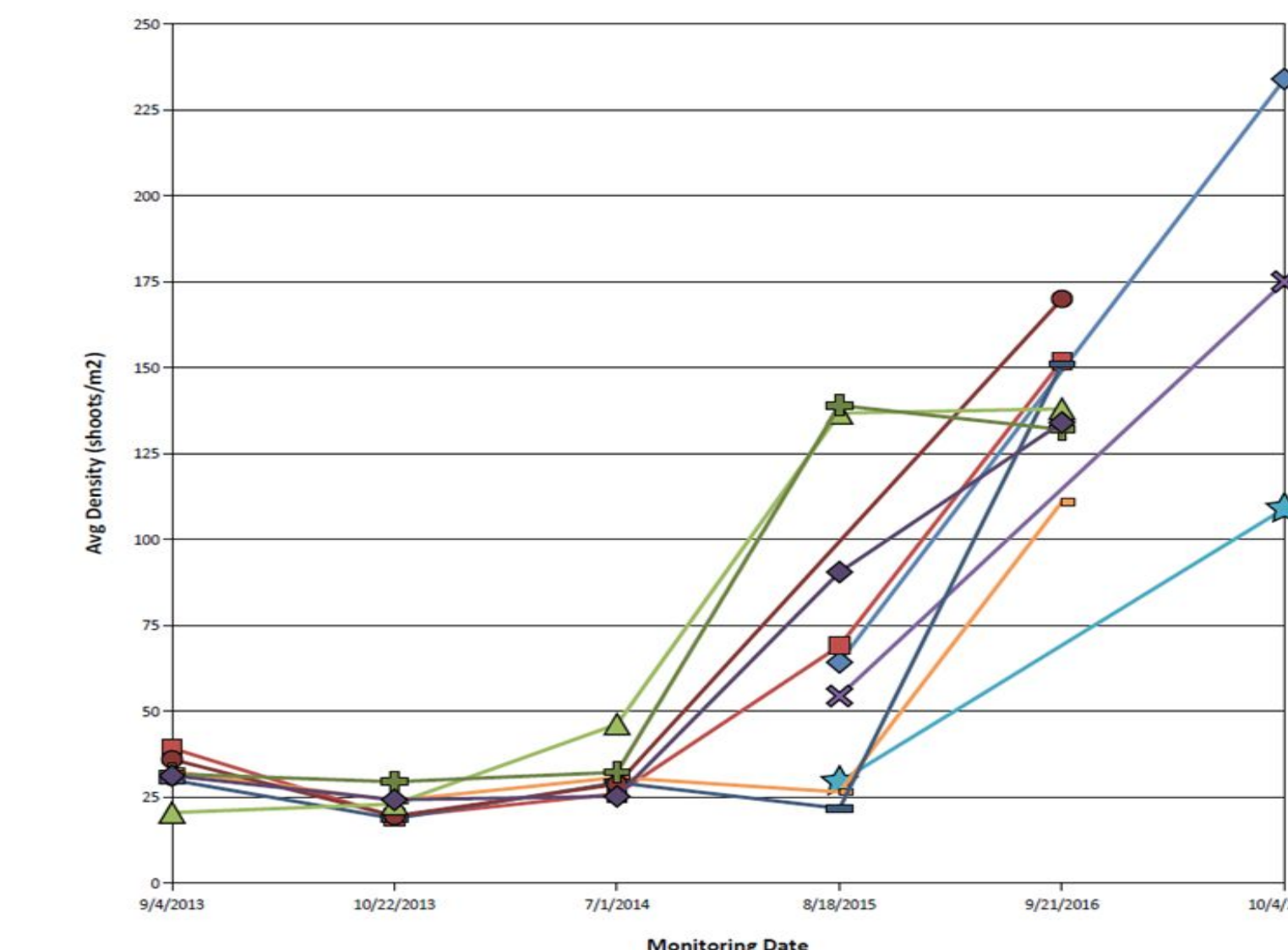


Restoration and improved water quality can bring back eelgrass meadows. In the photo below (left), volunteers prepare plants for transplanting. Plants are tied into a burlap disc (right) to help anchor them when they are planted.



Can you see who is hiding in these seagrass meadows?

(left: American lobster, right: winter flounder)



Since 2014, we've seen our planted plots at Governors Island Flats grow and expand.

## Why it Matters

2022 is the **50<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of the 1972 **Clean Water Act** where seagrass beds are designated a **special Aquatic Site**.

Boston Harbor water quality continues to improve and with it more than 400 acres of former seagrass meadows have recovered, thanks to improved wastewater and stormwater management and restoration efforts.

## What You Can Do

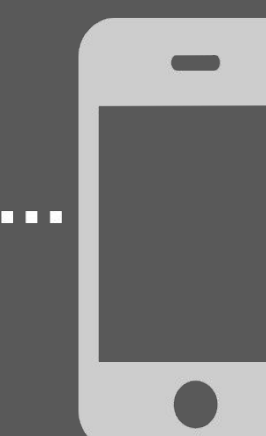
Help keep water clean by:

- Picking up dog waste and trash
- Reducing fertilizer use
- Pump, don't dump your marine toilets

Get involved: volunteer to monitor water quality or take part in a wetland restoration project!



Tay Evans  
MA Division of Marine Fisheries



Scan here to see a video about this project

